

## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CPR-02 L-03 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION BERLIN PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 187812

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GE

SUBJECT: GDR TEAM IN WASHINGTON: FINAL MEETING

REF: STATE 184131

SUMMARY: AT FINAL MEETING SEPTEMBER 19, GDR TEAM SAID  
ITS REPORT TO FONMIN WILL FOCUS ON THREE POSSIBLE RESIDENCES  
AND THREE POSSIBLE CHANCERY SITES.

RESULTS OF EAST BERLIN DELIBERATIONS WILL BE COMMUNICATED  
TO WASHINGTON THROUGH GDR MISSION TO UN. GDR HAS RETAINED  
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SERVICES OF WASHINGTON REALTOR AND AN ATTORNEY TO PROVIDE

ADVICE ON PROPERTY QUESTIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. GDR ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM MET FOR FINAL TIME WITH DEPARTMENT OFFICERS SEPTEMBER 19. TEAM HAD SEEN NO NEW PROPERTIES WORTHY OF SERIOUS CONSIDERATION AND WILL BE REPORTING TO FONMIN ON TOTAL OF SIX PROPERTIES, THREE SUITABLE FOR CHANCERY AND THREE AS RESIDENCE FOR AMBASSADOR. CHANCERY POSSIBILITIES ARE (A) 20-ACRE FIRENZE ESTATE ON ALBERMARLE STREET; (B) 20-ACRE TREGARON ESTATE, AND (C) 2344 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE. FIRST TWO HAD BEEN MENTIONED BY TEAM IN EARLIER MEETINGS

ALL ARE ZONED FOR RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES.

(FOLLOWING MEETING AT DEPARTMENT TEAM REVIEWED SITES UNDER CONSIDERATION WITH ATTORNEY. ACCORDING TO TEAM MEMBERS, ATTORNEY ADVISED AGAINST ATTEMPTING TO GET APPROVAL TO USE TWO OF SITES AND SUGGESTED THAT GDR CONCENTRATE EFFORTS ON "PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT" OF 20 ACRE FIRENZE ESTATE ON ALBEMARLE STREET.)

2. TEAM TOUCHED BRIEFLY ON STAFF HOUSING PROBLEMS, INCLUDING PROBLEMS OF LONG-TERM LEASING AND DIFFICULTY FIND LARGE NUMBER OF APARTMENTS IN SINGLE BUILDING. TEAM INDICATED IT UNCERTAIN HOW LONG FONMIN STUDY OF PROPERTY MATTER WOULD TAKE BUT STATED THAT GDR UN MISSION WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH DEPARTMENT WHEN STUDY COMPLETED.

3. DEPARTMENT OFFICER EXPRESSED HOPE THAT GDR'S ATTORNEY AND REALTOR WOULD KEEP DEPARTMENT INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS, PARTICULARLY ON ZONING MATTERS. SHOULD PROBLEMS NOT BE CAPABLE OF RESOLUTION BY ATTORNEY AND REALTOR AND/OR SHOULD EAST GERMAN AUTHORITIES DECIDE AGAINST PROPERTY ALREADY SEEN IN WASHINGTON, DEPARTMENT WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION TO GDR SENDING REPS FROM GDR MISSION IN NEW YORK OR FROM EAST BERLIN TO INSPECT ADDITIONAL SITES WHICH MIGHT HAVE BECOME AVAILABLE IN WASHINGTON. DEPARTMENT ALSO PREPARED LET GDR SPECIALISTS COME TO DETERMINE REMODELING REQUIREMENTS WHEN SUITABLE BUILDING FOUND.  
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4. GDR TEAM INFORMED THAT DEPARTMENT STILL HAS PROPERTY SHOWN TO US IN EAST BERLIN UNDER STUDY AND WOULD HOPE TO CONVEY EVALUATION TO UN MISSION IN NEXT SEVERAL WEEKS. WE HOPED THAT IN MEANTIME ADDITIONAL PROPERTIES MIGHT BE IDENTIFIED BY GDR FOR POSSIBLE US USE IN EAST BERLIN.

5. GDR MENTIONED US REQUEST TO ALLOW US OR THIRD COUNTRY

NATIONALS TO RENOVATE EVENTUAL BUILDING AND MENTIONED THAT GDR WOULD WANT SIMILAR RIGHT. DEPARTMENT OFFICER REPLIED THAT THERE WAS NO OBJECTION TO THIS IN PRINCIPLE, BUT GDR REPS SHOULD BEAR IN MIND THAT SUCH WORK WOULD HAVE TO COMPLY WITH US BUILDING CODES AND THAT MASS

INJECTION OF WORKERS MIGHT RESULT IN US UNION OBJECTIONS. GDR REP INDICATED UNDERSTANDING OF THIS POSITION.

6. DEPARTMENT PROVIDED WRITTEN REPLIES (POUCHED TO BONN AND BERLIN) TO GDR QUESTIONS ON COMMUNICATIONS.

7. ATMOSPHERE OF TALKS WAS GENERALLY POSITIVE AND GDR TEAM COOPERATED CLOSELY WITH DEPARTMENT OFFICERS. TEAM SEEMED SURPRISED AT DIFFICULTY LOCATING SUITABLE CHANCERY PROPERTY AND EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS WITH THIS SITUATION. GDR FOREIGN MINISTRY CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES UNLIKELY TO BE SPEEDY AND WE DOUBT THAT EAST GERMANS WILL COMMUNICATE DECISION TO US PRIOR TO FURTHER US PRESENTATION TO GDR UN MISSION.

8. TEAM SCHEDULED TO DEPART SEPTEMBER 20 FROM NEW YORK. DEPARTMENT HAS BRIEFED FRENCH, UK AND FRG EMBASSY OFFICERS ON SUBSTANCE OF VISIT. RUSH

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